

E N E R G Y O L U T I O N S

January 20, 2006

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Gov. Schwarzenegger,

At the United Nations World Environment Day in San Francisco last June, you sent a signal to the rest of the country – and to the world – that California is serious about reducing our contribution to climate change. You said:

“I say the debate is over. We know the science. We see the threat. And we know the time for action is now.”

We agree. We urge you and your administration to move forward expeditiously in implementing strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our state to meet the targets you set: reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020 and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

California is uniquely positioned to take the lead on climate change policy. The Climate Action Team (CAT) Report (December 8, 2005) correctly states the importance of an enforceable cap, the establishment of mandatory greenhouse gas emissions reporting, the coordination of program financing, and the creation of a fossil fuel-based public goods charge. The CAT further explains these policies are a package and therefore should be implemented simultaneously to achieve maximum effect. It is crucial that the Governor and Legislature recognize the relationship between all four policies and move to implement them as one coordinated statewide initiative

As demonstrated by the economic analysis recently released, an enforceable cap will create significant economic opportunities for California businesses and spur development of cleantech industries that will help maintain California's current and future competitiveness in the world economy. California must work hard to formalize policies that reward organizations that have taken or will take early action. It is imperative that these policies reward early action organizations, setting the tone of economic growth as a result of emissions reductions.

As a small business that provides energy efficiency services in California, with 28 employees, we offer proof of the opportunities for job growth and economic development that an enforceable program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions would unleash. We stand ready to help meet the ambitious goals that you have set. We can do it – and we must do it, for our economy and our way of life.

You have our support, Governor Schwarzenegger. We urge you to take immediate, strong action to ensure that California's global warming targets are implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Samuel D. Cohen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Samuel" being the most prominent part.

Samuel D. Cohen
President,
Energy Solutions

cc: Alan Lloyd, CalEPA
Anne Baker, CalEPA
Eileen Tutt, CalEPA